

Louis H. Bruni County Judge

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WEBB COUNTY PRESS RELEASE

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JUDGE BRUNI PROCLAIMS: COUNTY TO PROCEED INDEPENDENTLY

WEBB COUNTY, Texas – On the heels of news that the Mexican government had sent an official diplomatic note to the U.S. government expressing interest in Webb County's proposed "Puente de la Unidad," and in light of Mayor Betty Flores' negative outburst at that development, Webb County Judge Louis H. Bruni stated that Webb County is following its own course with regard to the new bridge, and will continue to do so.

"Now that the Mexican government has formally notified the U.S. government that it is interested in the proposed new border crossing in Webb County, it is unfortunate that the City has chosen to continue fighting," said Judge Bruni. "We have pursued our bridge application in good faith; we have followed proper procedures; and, we are succeeding. Maybe that is why the Mayor is so upset—but we don't have time to entertain them. We are too busy going forward."

Bruni said that Webb County is well positioned financially to support the construction of the new bridge on its own and also has the legal authority to do so independently. Although county officials believe a joint partnership would be best for the community, Judge Bruni said that, "such a possibility must stand aside at present."

Webb County Commissioner Judith Gutierrez agreed.

"The county has since the inception tried to work with the city to no avail. We have a Mexican partner, and we must now proceed independently with the process with the ultimate hope of making the new bridge a reality," said Gutierrez.